

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 (ISO) W
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R 301305Z JUL 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO USDOC WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 2242

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 0821

BEIRUT FOR RCAA, RTDO, AND COMATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, IZ

SUBJ: MAKING IRAQIS AWARE OF U.S. VIVIL AIRLINES AND
OTHER MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

1. SUMMARY. NUMBER OF IRAQI VISITORS TO U.S. IS SOARING.
ACTION REQUESTED ALL ADDRESSEES CALL THIS TO ATTENTION
OF U.S. CARRIERS AND ASK THEM TO SEND USINT PROMOTIONAL
MATERIALS. END SUMMARY

2. IN JULY 1975 USINT ISSUED 500 NON-IMMIGRANT
VISAS TO THE US, NEARLY 400 TO BUSINESSMEN AND TOURISTS.
THESE FIGURES REPRESENT ALLTIME HIGH FOR UNINT--BUT
TREND OF INCREASING IRAQI GOVT, STUDENT, BUSINESS AND
TOURIST TRAVEL TO US IS SOARING. SO FAR AS WE CAN TELL
PRACTICALLY NONE OF OUR VISA APPLICANTS PLAN TO FLY
BY US CARRIERS ACCROSS THE ATLANTIC AND THEY KNOW NEXT
TO NOTHING ABOUT U.S. DOMESTIC CARRIERS. THIS CAN
AND SHOULD BE CORRECTED BECAUSE IRAQIS HAVE SOME
DISCRETION IN AIRLINES THEY SELECT (EXCEPT GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS AND GOI FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS WHO ARE REQUIRED
TO FLY IRAQI AIRWAYS TO EUROPE AND THE PIA OR AIR FRANCE
TO THE STATES).

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3. USINT REQUESTS ADDRESSEES BRING GROWTH
OF IRAQI TRAVEL TO ATTENTION OF US CARRIERS OPERATING
IN THE MID-EAST, ESPECIALLY PAN AM AND TWA OR ACROSS
THE ATLANTIC. WE WILL DISPLAY AND MAKE
AVAILABLE (ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS) TO VISA
APPLICANTS ANY COMPANY SUPPLIED TRAVEL BROCHURES, MAPS,
GUIDES TO US CITIES, OR OTHER PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS,
BUS LINES, AMTRAK OR OTHER APPROPRIATE CARRIERS-AS
WELL AS ANY LITERATURE US CAN SPARE.

4. WOULD ESPECIALLY APPRECIATE COMMENTS BY RCAA BEIRUT
ON OTHER STEPS USINT CAN TAKE TO SUPPORT US AIRLINES.
LOWRIE

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